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DEPT FOR NEA/IPA, WHA/CAR-SEARBY

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/24/2016

TAGS: PREL DR

SUBJECT: MESSAGE ON HOST COUNTRY MEETINGS WITH HAMAS -
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

REF: STATE 027174

Classified By: Political Officer Bainbridge Cowell for Reasons 1.4 (b)
and (d).

¶1. (C) Embassy provided reftel points to MFA Africa and Middle East director Jose Juan Hernandez Cimadevilla on February 24. Hernandez noted that the Dominican Republic has no relations with the Palestinian Authority (PA) and has no plans for contacts with or diplomatic recognition of the PA. He expressed hope that the post-election situation in the PA would prompt Hamas to change its hostile and violent policy toward Israel. Hernandez emphasized that the Dominican Republic has a tradition of close relations and friendship with Israel going back before its founding as a modern state.

HERTELL